

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01196 301219Z

73

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 EUR-25 IO-13 AID-20 OMB-01 RSR-01 /147 W

----- 096662

R 301125Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9057

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1196

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, MOPS, ZA

SUBJECT: MAY 15 BORDER SHOOTING INCIDENT

1. SUMMARY, FOLLOWING UP ON AMBASSADOR'S EXCHANGES ON MAY 15 INCIDENT WITH PRESIDENT, FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT MARK CHONA, HAVE JUST RECEIVED LONG LETTER FROM CHONA FOCUSING PARTICULARLY ON OUR EXPRESSION OF HOPE GRZ TAKING STEPS PREVENT RECURRENCE SUCH INCIDENTS. BURDEN OF LETTER IS RHODESIANS AND SOUTH AFRICAN SHOULD BE ASKED TO DO SAME. STRESSES INEQUITY OF VIOLENT REACTION TO MAY 15 INCIDENT COMPARED TO INDIFFERENCE TOWARD ZAMBIAN DEATHS RESULTING FROM EXPLOSION LANDMINES PLANTED IN ZAMBIA BY RHODESIANS AND SOUTH AFRICANS. END SUMMARY

2. LEADING OFF WITH REFERENCE TO COMPLETE OPENNESS OF GRZ DURING VISIT OF DRIJBER, FOR WHOM "WE HAVE DONE WHAT WE COULD AND THAT IS OUR LIMIT" (LUSAKA 1125 AND TAYLOR-LEITH JUNE 25 MEMCON POUCHED AF/E JUNE 30). CHONA WRITES ATTENTION OF RHODESIANS AND SOUTH AFRICANS MUST BE CALLED TO "DANGERS INHERENT IN THEIR ACTS OF UNPROVOKED AGGRESSION AGAINST ZAMBIANS." NOTED ZAMBIA HAD OF LATE NOT BEEN MAKING PUBLIC STATEMENTS RE LANDMINE INCIDENTS IN ORDER AVOID OVER-REACTION BY POPULATION: "BURDEN OF PREVENTING RECURRENCE SUCH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 01196 301219Z

INCIDENTS COULD NOT BE PUT ON ZAMBIA WHICH HAS LOST 20 INNOCENT

CITIZENS.. VICIOUS REACTION OF SOME COUNTRIES TO DEATH OF TWO CANADIANS VIS-A-VIS THEIR SILENCE AND INDIFFERENCE TOWARDS DEATH TWENTY ZAMBIANS PAINFUL TO US IN EXTREME... ZAMBIA WILL CONTINUE TO BE A PRIME TARGET OF PRETORIA AND SALISBURY FOR YET A FEW MORE YEARS. BUT WHO IS TELLING THE RULERS OF THESE COUNTRIES TO STOP THEIR ACTS OF COLD BLOODED MURDER?"

3. CHONA THEN ASKS: " ARE ZAMBIANS BEING ASKED NOT TO TAKE MEASURES IN SELF-DEFENSE AGAINST PEOPLE WHO ARE OUTLAWS? .. GREATEST MISFORTUNE IS ISSUE OF FOURTH GORGE INCIDENT NOT JUDGED OBJECTIVELY BUT IN NARROW CONTEXT OF INVOLVEMENT OF CANADIAN AND AMERICAN NATIONS." RHODESIANS AND SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE FREQUENTLY FIRED ACROSS ZAMBEZI AT ZAMBIANS, BOMBED ZAMBIAN VILLAGES, SENT FORCES TO PLANT LANDMINES INSIDE ZAMBIA. IN SOME WESTERN EYES "ONLY WHEN ZAMBIA TAKES ACTIONS EVEN IN SELF-DEFENSE INVOLVING WHITES IN RHODESIA OR SOUTH AFRICA IS SITUATION CREATED WHICH BRINGS SOUTHERN AFRICA TO BRINK OF BLOEXSZV."

4. CHONA ALSO REFERS TO SWORN STATEMENTS BY THE CROTHERS, COPIES OF WHICH WE PROVIDED HIM AND FOREIGN MINISTER (COPY POUCHED AF/E BURKE). NOTING THEIR EXPRESSIONS OF AFFECTION FOR RHODESIA AND "PRETTY OFFENSIVE" LANGUAGE USED BY JOHN CROTHERS, HE STATES GRZ NOW EVEN MORE SUSPICIOUS ABOUT CROTHERS' ASSOCIATION WITH "MYSTERIOUS" SOUTH AFRICAN WHO ARRANGED TRIP TO RHODESIA. FINALLY, HE ASSERTS RHODESIANS AND SOUTH AFRICANS IN PROCESS OF DIGGING IN AROUND VICTORIA FALLS AREA.

5. DRAWING ON ACTING SECRETARY RUSH' LETER TO FOREIGN MINISTER RUDENDA, AMBASSADOR INTENDS ON APPROPRIATE OCCASION TO RESPOND TO CHONA BY SAYING WE CERTAINLY CONCUR THAT ADEQUATE MEASURES NEED TO BE TAKEN ON BOTH SIDES OF ZAMBEZI TO PREVENT INCIDENTS. WOULD WISH, OF COURSE, TO BE IN POSITION SAY WE HAVE MADE THIS POINT TO SOUTH AFRICANS AND THROUGH THEM TO RHODESIANS. WHILE VERIFICATION NEEDED OF ZAMBIAN ASSERTIONS LANDMINE AND OTHER WARLIKE ACTIONS IN ZAMBIA NEAR FRONTIER ARE WORK OF SOUTH AFRICANS AND RHODESIANS, URGE DEPT REQUEST PRETORIA, IN GENERAL INTEREST AND IN INTEREST PROTECTION AMCITS WHO VENTURE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 01196 301219Z

INTO AREA, EXPRESS TO SAG OUR HOPE THAT EVERY EFFORT BEING MADE BY SAG AND RHODESIA PREVENT INCIDENTS. COULD INFORM SAG AT SAME TIME WE HAVE MADE SIMILAR APPROACHES TO GRZ.

6. FOREGOING UNDERSCORES IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO KAUNDA-UNSYG WALDHEIM DISCUSSION POSSIBILITY OF UN OBSERVERS TO POLICE BORDER (PARA 2, LUSAKA 1065). IS THERE ANY MOVEMENT AT UN HEADQUARTERS ON THIS MATTER WHICH GRZ

HAS UNDER CONSIDERATION,?
WILKOWSKI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LUSAKA01196
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973061/aaaaaacu.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAY 15 BORDER SHOOTING INCIDENT
TAGS: CASC, MOPS, ZA
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005